

REMARKS

Claim 22 has been amended to broaden the claim to cover any difference between the waveguide pair, not just a length difference. New claim 36 includes a length difference limitation.

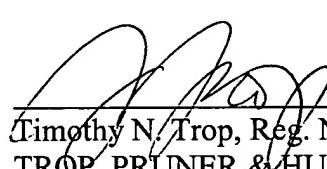
Attached is a Declaration of the prosecuting attorney and the inventors showing a date of invention prior to the April 23, 2003 filing date of the cited patent application to Dragone.

Therefore, the application should now be in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

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